in Delhi Regional Office and Chandigarh Depot of Hindustan Paper Corporation Ltd. were detected causing a loss of about Rs. 8.20 crores to the Corporation. Executive Director (Marketing) and six officials of Marketing and Finance Department of Delhi Regional Office and Depot Incharges of Delhi and Chandigarh have been suspended. The case has been referred to the C.B.I.

Preference to sick PSUs in placing orders

2507. SHRI GAYA SINGH :

SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has asked all Government Departments to give preference to sick public sector undertakings while placing orders; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Improving the Performance of PSUs

2508. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) The strategies devised to improve the performance of the public sector undertakings to face the global competition;

(b) the financial assistance earmarked for revamping PSUs; and

(c) the action proposed in regard to the chronically sick PSUs.

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Measures, in general, taken by the Government to improve the performance of the PSUs and make them globally competitive include enhanced delegation of powers, professionalisation of managements, promotion of joint ventures, modernisation, technology upgradation, capital and organisational restructuring, rationalization of manpower etc.

(b) Depending upon the requirements and availability of resources, Government provides budgetary support to PSUs including for restructuring and revamping. Enterprise-wise Annual Plan Assistance is indicated in Expenditure Budget, which is a published document.